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Nugent Vitallo

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EXAMINER

TOMPKINS, ALISSA JILL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3765

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

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PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

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Part of Paper No./Mail Date 20070216

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## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

Applicant's amendment filed on 1/26/2007 has been received. Claims 1-6 are pending.

### ***Specification***

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: The added claim limitations of claim 1 does not have proper antecedent basis in applicant's specification.

### ***Drawings***

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the portion of the interior pocket not superimposed by the outside panel that hangs freely between the front panel and the wearer's torso from claim 1 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

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Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hosogai (U.S. 6,182,296). Hosogai discloses a reversible denim jacket 50 having a front surface that covers the wearer's torso when worn. The jacket is made out of a conventional denim fabric (Column 4, 49). The jacket having sleeves of a predetermined length comprises a pair of exterior jacket pocket pouches 52, which are superimposed over a pair of interior jacket pocket pouches 60 (Figures 5 and 7). The pockets are sewn directly to the exterior and interior surfaces 140 and 150 of the jacket respectively (Column 4, 52-53, 60-61). The jacket would be capable of being worn as a shirt, since a shirt and a jacket have the same body structure.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hosogai (U.S. 6,182,296). Hosogai discloses the invention substantially as applied in claims 1-5 above. However, Hosogai is missing an outside panel with a metallic piece. Hosogai shows a jacket 50 having exterior panels/pockets 52 that overlie interior pockets 60. The exterior panels/pockets have buttons 100 for securing the pockets (Figure 5). It is well known in the art that buttons are commonly formed from metal. It would have been

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obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have used metal buttons so as to provide the pockets with a reliable means of closure.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed 1/26/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant submits that Hosogai does not teach a garment, specifically a shirt. However, the garment of Hosogai is capable of being worn as a shirt. The structure of Hosogai meets the claim limitation as presented by applicant.

Applicant submits that Hosogai does not teach an interior pocket that is reinforced to the garment with an outside panel whereby the interior pocket is only partially superimposed and whereby the remaining portion of the interior pocket hangs freely. However, Hosogai shows interior pockets as seen in Figure 7 that are not fully superimposed since the front pockets have an extra top flat panel that the interior pockets do not have. As far as the free hanging pocket, applicant teaches in his specification that the shirt can have pockets that are sewn around the perimeter or can be freely hanging. Applicant does not offer any criticality as to why the pocket needs to be freely hanging. Therefore, the device of Hosogai is capable of performing in the manner recited by the applicant and is therefore interpreted to meet the limitations in the claim.

Applicant submits that Hosogai does not teach a garment wherein the interior pockets are accessible to the user while the shirt is being worn. However, the garment of Hosogai has interior pockets that would be capable of being accessed when being worn. The garment has a number of buttonholes 160 on the front side, which would allow access to the inside of the garment, while the garment is still being worn. The structure of Hosogai meets the claim limitations as presented by applicant.

***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

All claims are drawn to the same invention claimed in the application prior to the entry of the submission under 37 CFR 1.114 and could have been finally rejected on the grounds and art of record in the next Office action if they had been entered in the application prior to entry under 37 CFR 1.114. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL** even though it is a first action after the filing of a request for continued examination and the submission under 37 CFR 1.114. See MPEP § 706.07(b). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of



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the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Potter (U.S. 2,295,425), Martin (U.S. 2,410,226), Thomas (U.S. 5,638,549), Salamone (U.S. 5,636,386), and Abbot (U.S. 2,604,627) show garments with freely hanging pockets.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alissa J. Tompkins whose telephone number is 571-272- 3425. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 830-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Welch can be reached on 571-272-4996. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.



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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Alissa Tompkins  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 3765  
February 16, 2007

AJT



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